

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00
NSC-05 /072 W
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P R 271611Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4744
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
USMISSION USNATO
USCINCEUR
USNMR SHAPE
USDOCOSOUTH
USDOCOLANTSOUTHEAST

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 1676

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MARR, MPOL, NATO, GR, TU
SUBJECT: GREECE-NATO -- ALLEGED WASHINGTON REJECTION OF SPECIAL
RELATIONSHIP AND GOG DENIAL

1. LIBERAL OPPOSITION TO VIMA REPORTED ON FEBRUARY 26 THAT STATE
AND DOD HAVE CONCLUDED THAT A SPECIAL STATUS FOR GREECE IN NATO,
AT LEAST TO THE EXTENT ATHENS DESIRES IT, IS "NEITHER JUSTIFIED
NOR EXPEDIENT." THE STORY, BY NEW YORK-BASED CORRESPONDENT
EFSTATHIADIS FROM A "KNOWLEDGEABLE AMERICAN SOURCE," STATED THAT
THE USG HAD STUDIED FOR SEVERAL MONTHS THE GENERAL POLITICAL
CONDITIONS IN GREECE AS WELL AS GREEK "SUGGESTIONS" FOR
FLEXIBILITY, BUT HAD DECIDED TO AGREE WITH THE NATO STAFF IN
BRUSSELS AND OTHER ALLIED MILITARY OFFICERS WHO ARE FIRMLY
OPPOSED, SO TO VIMA ALLEGES, TO A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP.

2. THE FOREGOING DECISION, AT LEAST IN CONCEPTUAL TERMS, WAS
REPORTEDLY BRIEFED TO THE GOG SOMETIME BETWEEN MID-JANUARY AND
EARLY FEBRUARY, ACCORDING TO EFSTATHIADIS. SHORTLY THEREAFTER,
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ACCORDING TO EFSTATHIADIS' ACCOUNT, THE GREEK MILITARY LEADER-
SHIP HELD A LONG MEETING THAT DETERMINED IT WAS POLITICALLY NOT
FEASIBLE TO RECOMMEND FULL RETURN TO NATO, IRRESPECTIVE OF
TECHNICAL PROBLEMS. (COMMENT: SEE USDAO ATHENS IR 6 837 0045 78
DTG 101430Z FEB 78 WHICH REPORTED SUCH A MEETING, ALTHOUGH
WITHOUT SUCH A FIRM DECISION.)

3. PRO-GOVERNMENT VRADYNI CARRIED A SECONDARY STORY AFTERNOON
FEBRUARY 27 IN WHICH A "COMPETENT INDIVIDUAL" CHARACTERIZED THE
TO VIMA REPORT AS "UNTRUE". THE SOURCE STATED THAT THE GOG
POSITION IS UNCHANGED, THE GOAL (OF A SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP) RE-
MAINS "ATTAINABLE", AND THAT THE ISSUE (AS DESCRIBED BY TO VIMA)
"DOES NOT EXIST."
MILLS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 27 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Case Number: n/a
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